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Austria

COUNTRY REPORT

TOPIC 1. Evacuation of the Soviet Hospital in Amstetten
 2. Military Activity at Mauer Oehling, Melk and Engineers' Training Area near Melk 25X1

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 10 August 1955

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS 25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 6 July 1955, the evacuation of the Soviet hospital in Amstetten, Brandstroemgasse, took place. Fences were dismantled and no more sentries were posted. Three trucks were loaded with laundry on the yard of the installation. Sedan [] was also observed. [] the hospital was being transferred to St. Poelten.¹ 25X1
2. A total of 42 motor vehicles was parked at the former Landesheilanstalt in Mauer Oehling. No weapons were observed. The barracks were visited by three majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets and two majors wearing black-bordered red epaulets. The following motor-vehicles were observed: truck [] with driver wearing black-bordered red epaulets, truck [] and van-like truck [] and Jeep [] drivers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and truck [] with driver wearing black-bordered red epaulets. 25X1

A column of 40 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets, with three light machine guns and model SKS carbines, practiced emplacing and aiming on targets. 2

3. On 5 July 1955, three telephone two-wire circuits were observed between the Birago barracks in Melk and the engineers' training area on the southern bank of the Danube. About 30 tents were put up on the training ground one km. North-East of the Melk railway station. A column of 28 trucks with small pontoons, pontoon carriers, motor boats, and trucks with hoisting gears was observed. A column of 26 trucks with heavy pontoons was seen on another engineers' training ground, two km. Northeast of the Melk railway station. A wooden abutment beam was built near this training ground on the Danube bank. Four pontoons loaded with bridge building material were anchored in the Danube. The Danube bank in the area of the two training grounds was levelled and cleared of briars. 3 25X1

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Six squads of 9 soldiers each, wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including SKS magazine-fed carbines, practiced in the yard of the Birago barracks. Two 57-mm AT guns were seen in a garage. Among other motor vehicles, truck [redacted] and van-like truck [redacted] were parked. Two majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, a Senior Lieutenant wearing black-bordered black epaulets, and sedan [redacted] with driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets were observed at the barracks. 4

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1. [redacted] Comment. The transfer is presumably taking place in connection with the forthcoming evacuation of the Austrian Soviet Zone. It is not probable that the hospital will be transferred to St. Poelten.
2. [redacted] Comment. The 290th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div is stationed in Mauer-Ohling, which is assumed to be its military post.
3. [redacted] Comment. The 109th Gds Eng Bn of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div is assumed to be stationed on the engineers' training ground Northeast of Melk. The 8th Gds Eng Bn of the 13th Gds Mecz Div, still absent from the military post Klosterneuburg, possibly also trained there.
4. [redacted] Comment. The 233d Gun Arty Regt of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, listed as a unit in the Birago barracks in Melk, for the most part remained at its military post.

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